May 12, 1970 G. F. CUTSINGER 3,511,529

COLLAPSIBLE ROOM FOR PORTABLE CAMPERS AND TRAILERS

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FIG. 1

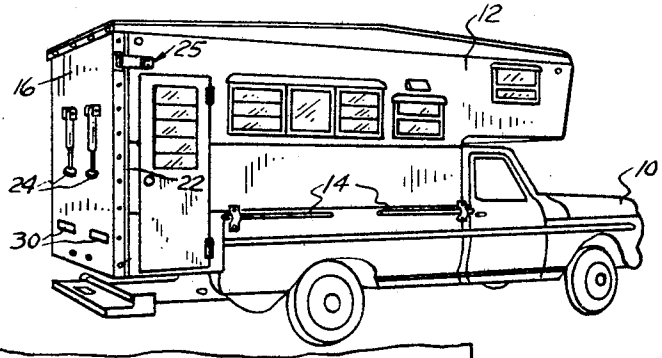


FIG. 2

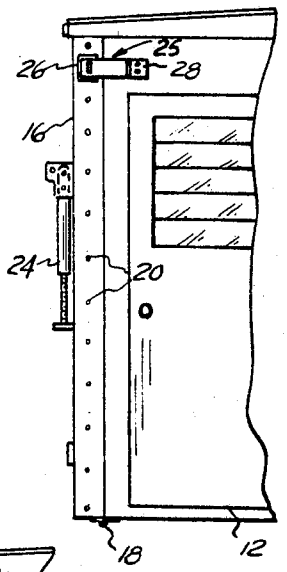
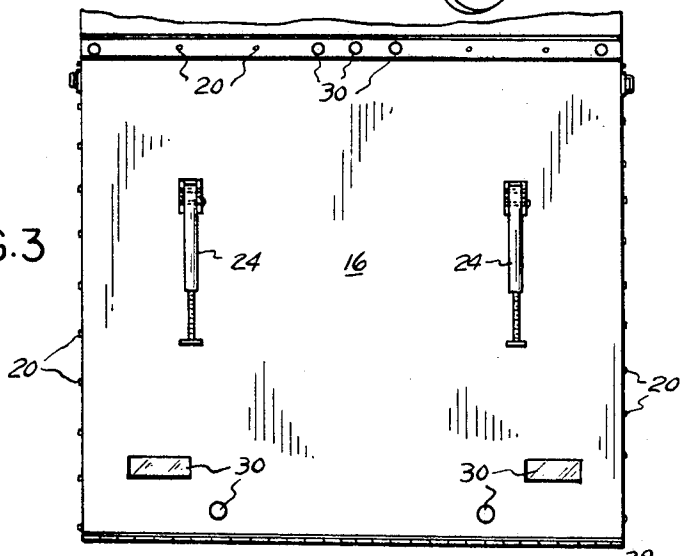


FIG. 3



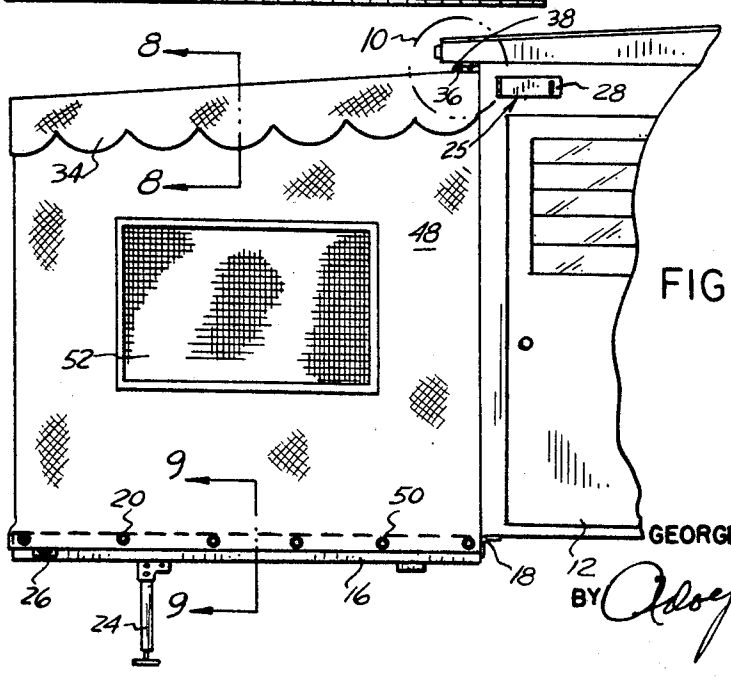


FIG. 4

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COLLAPSIBLE ROOM FOR PORTABLE CAMPERS AND TRAILERS

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FIG. 5

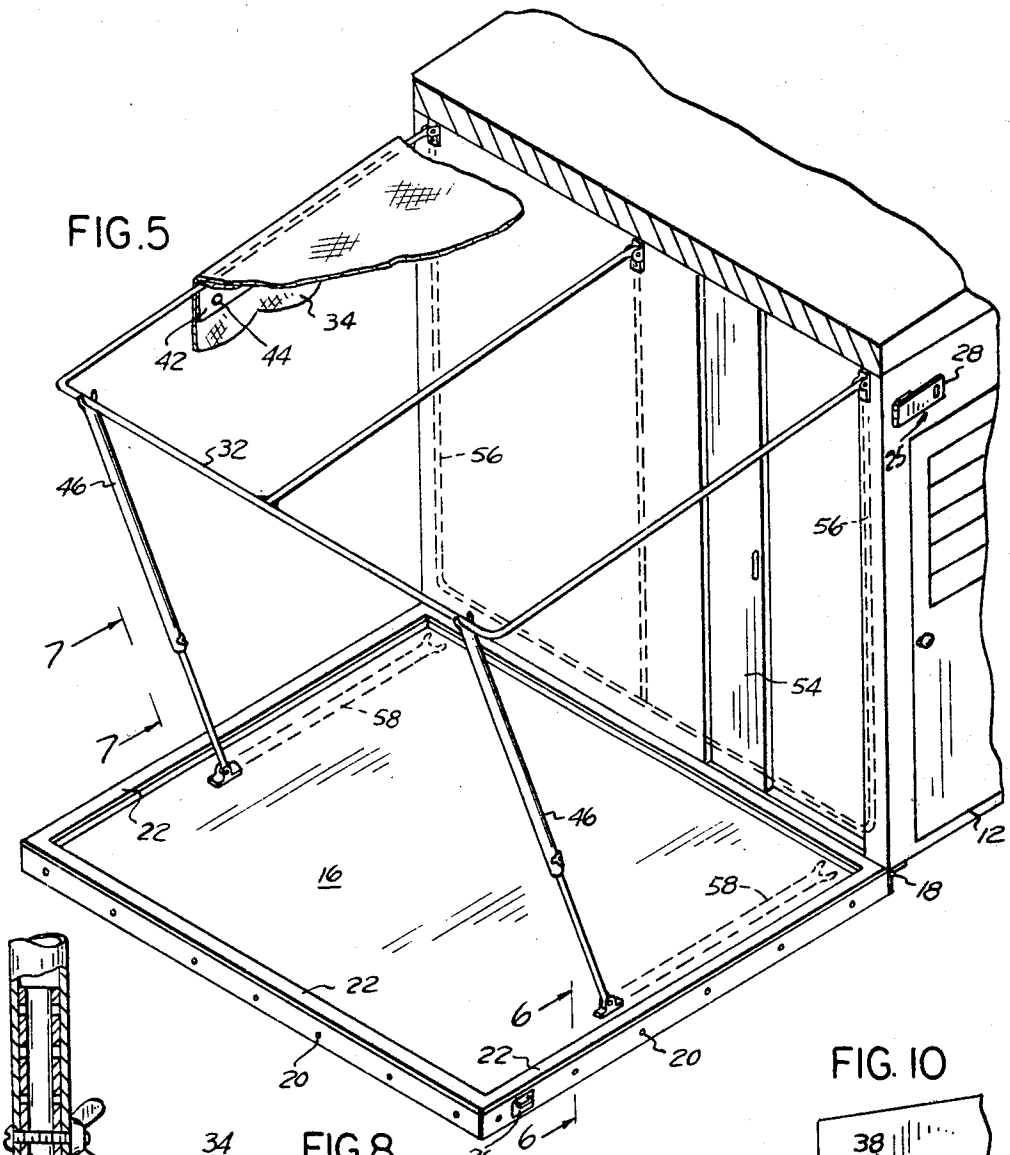


FIG. 7

FIG. 8

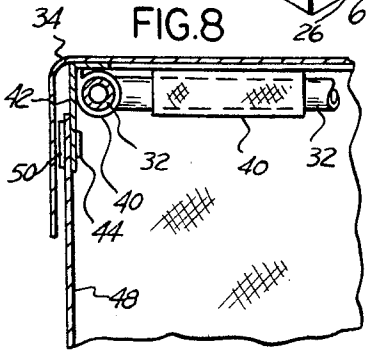


FIG. 10

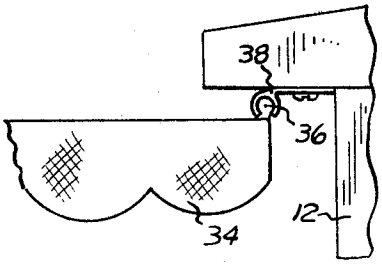


FIG. 6

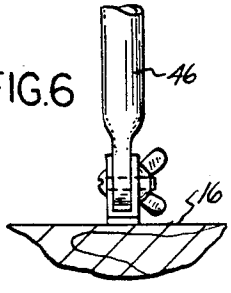
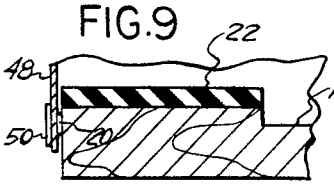


FIG. 9



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3,511,529

COLLAPSIBLE ROOM FOR PORTABLE CAMPERS AND TRAILERS

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Filed June 3, 1968, Ser. No. 734,137
Int. Cl. B60p 3/32
U.S. Cl. 296—23
1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An additional room attachable to portable campers and trailers which is completely collapsible so as to facilitate convenient storage and travel.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to campers and trailers of the type suitable for use respectively with pick-up trucks and passenger vehicles. The primary consideration in trailer and camper construction is to provide additional usable space without increasing proportionately the outside dimensions. To achieve this objective, certain manufacturers have appended collapsible structures to their basic unit to provide lounging, dining or sleeping facilities, which can be compacted for convenience in traveling. Such accommodations, however, are usually cumbersome to operate, and detract materially from the general appearance of the trailer or camper. This explains why such collapsible auxiliary structures have failed to gain public acceptance and become standard equipment on trailers and campers.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention consists of a floor panel pivotally connectable to a trailer or camper so as to be swingable into a position adjacent the rear of such unit. A collapsible awning is supportable over the floor panel when the latter is in a horizontal position. Ventilated side curtains are attachable to the awning and floor panel so as to enclose the area and provide an additional room for use as an auxiliary dining, lounging or sleeping facility.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing the applicant's invention applied to a portable camper **12** mounted on a pick-up truck **10**.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary side view showing the fasteners **25** and the adjustable feet **24** on the floor panel **16**.

FIG. 3 is an enlarged elevation view showing the hinge **18** attaching the floor panel **16** to the camper **12**.

FIG. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary side view showing the floor panel **16** in a lowered position, and the awning **34** extended with the side curtains **48** attached.

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary rear perspective view of the construction in FIG. 4, with a portion of the awning **34** torn away so as to show the supporting frame **32**.

FIG. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary section view, taken substantially on plane **6—6** in FIG. 5, showing the pivotal attachment of the telescopic members **46** to the floor panel **16**.

FIG. 7 is an enlarged fragmentary view, taken substantially on plane **7—7** in FIG. 5, showing the telescoping member **46** with portions broken away to show structural details.

FIG. 8 is a section view, taken substantially on plane **8—8** in FIG. 4, showing the drop section **42** on the awning **34** and the buttons **44** thereon for attachment to the snap rings **50** on the side curtains **48**.

FIG. 9 is an enlarged section view, taken substantially on plane **9—9** in FIG. 4, showing the buttons **20** on the floor panel **16** for attachment to the snap rings **50** on the side curtains **48**.

FIG. 10 is an enlarged fragmentary side view of the construction enclosed by circle **10** in FIG. 4, showing the retainer rib **36** on the awning **34** secured in the slotted tubular member **38**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Construction

For a more detailed description of the invention, reference is made to the drawing in which numeral **10** designates a pick-up truck having a portable camper **12** attached thereto in the conventional manner. Adjustable legs **14** are provided on each side of the portable camper **12** for supporting it independently of the pick-up truck **10**. A floor panel **16** is mounted on the rear end of the portable camper **12** by a hinge **18**, and provided with a series of attachment buttons **20** around the outer edges.

A resilient sealing member **22** is provided along the upper periphery of the floor panel **16**. A pair of adjustable feet **24** are pivotally mounted on the lower side of the floor panel **16** for supporting it in a lowered or lateral position, as shown in FIG. 4. A fastener **25**, having a ring **26** and a hasp **28** attached respectively to the floor panel **16** and the camper **12**, is provided to lock the floor panel **16** in a raised position, as shown in FIGS. 1 and 2.

Customary signal lights, such as **30**, are provided on the lower side of the floor panel **16**, and connected to the vehicle lighting system in the conventional manner. A frame **32** pivotally attached to the portable camper **12**, is covered with an awning **34** of canvas or other flexible material. A bead **36** on the rear edge of the awning **34** is removably secured in a slotted tubular member **38** mounted on the portable camper **12**, as shown in FIGS. 4 and 10.

A series of tunnels **40** are provided around the under side of the awning **34** for securing it to the frame **32**. An interior drop section **42**, along the front and both sides of the awning **34**, has mounted therein spaced attachment buttons **44**. A pair of adjustable telescopic members **46**, pivotally attached to the floor panel **16**, support the frame **32** when it is in extended position, as shown in FIG. 5.

Side curtains **48** have spaced snap rings **50** along the upper and lower sides thereof removably secured to the attachment buttons **44** and **20** on the drop section **42** and floor panel **16** respectively. Ventilating and viewing panels, such as **52**, are provided in the side curtains **48**. A sliding door **54** is placed in the rear end of the camper unit **12** to provide convenient ingress and egress from the applicant's auxiliary structure.

This completes a description of the structural details of the applicant's invention; however, to facilitate a more thorough comprehension of the subject matter herein presented, a discussion is next directed to the manner in which the structure is used to perform its intended function.

Use and operation

In using the applicant's auxiliary structure, the camper unit **12** is preferably removed from the pick-up truck **10** and supported on the ground by means of the adjustable legs **14**. The floor panel **16** is then unlocked from its secured or raised position, as shown in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3, by removing the hasp **28** from the ring **26**. The floor panel **16** may then be swung to its lowered position, shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, and the adjustable feet **24** manipulated to support the floor panel **16** in a horizontal position.

The frame **32** and the attached awning **34** are next elevated from the broken line position **56**, adjacent the camper unit **12**, to the extended position shown in FIGS. 4 and 5.

The telescopic members **46** are then pivoted from the broken line position **58**, adjacent the floor panel **16**, to the full line position shown in FIG. 5. The telescopic members **46** are adjusted and manipulated to engage the frame **32** so as to support the same over the floor panel **16**, as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5.

The side curtains **34** can then be applied by engaging the snap rings **50** thereon with the attachment buttons **20** and **44** on the floor panel **16** and drop-section **42** respectively, as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9. The enclosure is thereupon ready to serve as an auxiliary sleeping, dining or lounging facility, with ready access from inside the camper unit **12** through the sliding door **54**. When it is desired to collapse and compact the applicant's auxiliary structure to facilitate storage or travel, the previously described procedure is followed in reverse sequence.

Based upon the foregoing discussion, the applicant is of the opinion that his invention has fulfilled a long-felt need in the field of campers and trailers, and that he has made a valuable contribution to the related art. However, while the invention was described with reference to the structural details of a single embodiment, the principles involved are susceptible of numerous other practical adaptations.

Therefore, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A collapsible structure for portable camper and trailer units, such structure comprising a floor panel pivotally attachable to the portable units and having a raised and a lowered position, an awning attachable to the portable units and having an extended and a retracted position, adjustable members pivotally attached to the floor panel for holding the awning in its extended position over the floor panel when the latter is in its lowered position, at least one adjustable foot pivotally attached to the floor panel for supporting the floor panel in its lowered position, a resilient member around the floor panel for entering into a water-tight engagement with an outer wall of the portable unit when the floor panel is in its raised position, a series of fasteners around both the floor panel and the awning, and side curtains removably attachable to the fasteners on the floor panel and the awning when the latter are in their extended and lowered positions respectively so as to seal effectively the enclosed area.

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PHILIP GOODMAN, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

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